

Childminder report

Inspection date:

16 September 2022

Overall effectiveness	Good
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The quality of education	Good
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Behaviour and attitudes	Good
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Personal development	Good
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Leadership and management	Good
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Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Good
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What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children are contented, settled and thoroughly enjoy their time in this homely environment. They build very close attachments with the childminder, who is caring and nurturing. This supports children's emotional well-being. For instance, they often sit on the childminder's knee for a cuddle. Children show considerate behaviour. For example, they show care and tolerance towards the childminder's dog, who is playful and lively. Furthermore, children develop a very strong sense of responsibility. They thoughtfully help to tidy away resources after activities.

Children choose from a range of resources that support their learning and development. They spend a long time at activities of their own choosing. They hold pens correctly and give meanings to their marks as they colour pictures. When asked by the childminder to tell her about their picture, children say, 'That is daddy.' The childminder challenges children's literacy skills and says, 'Can you write your name on your picture?' Children are confident and secure in the setting and enjoy involving visitors in their play. For instance, they share pretend pizza during imaginative play. Children access books independently and look through the pages enthusiastically. This helps to foster an early love of books and reading.

What does the early years setting do well and what does it need to do better?

- The childminder has a commitment to providing the best service she can for children and their families. She has accessed mandatory training, such as first aid. However, she has accessed a more limited range of training to help her to extend and motivate children's learning. She is particularly keen to access further continual professional development that ignites and refreshes her knowledge on providing different activities for children.
- The childminder knows the children well. She talks confidently about where they are in their learning and development. She knows what she needs to do next to support their continuing progress. The childminder helps children to develop the key skills needed to be ready for school. For example, to be independent and manage their own self care.
- The childminder gives children the opportunity to make choices in their play and to follow their interests. She gives them plenty of time to focus on their self-chosen activity. This is particularly evident when children choose to role play with toy babies and use their imagination in the pretend kitchen. Children put dolls into a highchair and pretend to feed them and pat dolls on the back. They make pretend cups of coffee. This play goes on for a long period of time and shows a positive attitude to learning.
- The childminder models language and communication well. She uses descriptive words that link in with the activities the children are engaged in. This helps to broaden their vocabulary and understanding.

- The childminder motivates children to play and learn. She joins in with their play and recognises opportunities to extend their learning. For example, when children line up items, the childminder encourages them to count how many they have. Children use their mathematical skills and count one to four confidently.
- The childminder manages children's behaviour well. She reminds children about sharing and taking turns. Children quickly return to playing cooperatively, which shows their embedded understanding of rules and boundaries.
- The childminder contributes to children having a healthy lifestyle. Each day the children get fresh air and exercise when they accompany the childminder to take the older children to school. Most days the childminder and the children visit the local park, and children practise their physical skills on the larger equipment.
- Parents are complimentary about the childminder and the service she provides. Written comments include, 'It is clear she is passionate about her job and the well-being of the children.' The childminder implements an effective two-way exchange of information. She sends home messages and talks to parents at drop-off and collection times. As a result, parents know what their children are learning and can support them at home if they wish.
- The childminder supports children to learn about the wider world on their outings. They regularly visit the local library, which gives children good opportunities to socialise with others.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder keeps her knowledge of safeguarding up to date. She is fully aware of her responsibility to protect the welfare of children. The childminder has a secure knowledge of the signs and symptoms of abuse and knows how to report concerns in a timely manner. She knows the procedures to follow if an allegation is made against her or a member of the household. The childminder keeps required documentation, such as attendance registers, up to date. This contributes to the protection of children's welfare. The childminder supervises children well and provides a safe and secure environment for them to play in.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

To further improve the quality of the early years provision, the provider should:

- strengthen existing knowledge of how to enhance the experiences children are offered to extend learning further.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY441681
Local authority	Leicestershire
Inspection number	10075072
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children at time of inspection	2 to 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	15
Date of previous inspection	16 June 2016

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2012 and lives in Huncote, Leicestershire. The childminder operates all year round, from 7.30am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds a level 3 childcare qualification.

Information about this inspection

Inspector
Sharon Alleary

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the childminder received since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the childminder and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the childminder.
- The inspector looked around the areas of the setting available to children.
- The inspector held discussions with the childminder and the children throughout the inspection.
- The childminder and the inspector carried out a joint evaluation of the inspection activities.
- The inspector observed the quality of education during activities indoors and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector took account of written references from parents and the local pre-school.
- Relevant documentation was available for inspection, including suitability checks, qualifications as well as policies and procedures.

We carried out this inspection under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the early years foundation stage.

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